

Dr Christian Huveneers

Associate

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Languages: English, French and Dutch



Expertise

- Antitrust
- Mergers
- State Aid

Sectors

- Energy
- Water

Profile

Christian has a background in law, economics and econometrics. As a full-time member of the Belgian Competition Council since 2004, and Vice-President from 2007 to September 2013, he gained extensive experience in competition matters including cartels, abuses of dominance and mergers. He is currently a part-time assessor (panel member) of the Belgian Competition Authority.

Before Christian's appointment to the Belgian Competition Council, he worked for a Belgian industrial holding company and acted as an expert for the Belgian Federal Planning Bureau and the Belgian Central Economic Council for several years.

Christian has lectured in Belgian, Dutch and French universities. He has conducted research and published in the fields of industrial economics and the economic analysis of law, studying the nexus between industrial organisation and corporate finance. His works have been published widely, including in the Journal of Industrial Economics, the Journal of Banking and Finance, the Journal of European Competition Law and Practice, Competition Law Journal, Revue du droit des industries de réseau, Recherches économiques de Louvain, Revue d'économie financière, Tijdschrift voor Economie en Management, Tijdschrift voor Belgische Mededinging – Revue de concurrence belge, and Markt & Mededinging.

Selected professional experience

- Teaching in competition economics for Belgian civil servants (2008, 2009) and for judges (1998, 2004, 2005, 2021)
- Economic advice to Belgian distribution network operators in energy (2020)
- Drafting of interim measures in cases on pharmaceuticals (2017) and sport associations (2020)
- Drafting of Decisions on merger cases, including the acquisition of the Belgian financial dailies De Tijd and L'Echo (2005), a merger of on-shore handlers in the port of Antwerp (2006), the acquisition of restaurants along the Belgian highways by Autogrill (2006), the acquisition by Proximus of Scarlet (2008) and of The Phone House (2011), the merger of the cable operators in Wallonia (2008), and a merger between Belgian gasoline stations (2020)
- Expert report for the Belgian Central Economic Council on state aid for the postal distribution of newspapers (2019)
- Economic assistance in a litigation case between firms before a Dutch court (2015)
- Computation of damages in cartel cases, such as the elevators cartel (with economic advice for the claimant) before the Commercial Court in Brussels (2015)
- Drafting of Decisions on alleged cartels, including the joint selling of the football broadcasting rights of the Belgian Football League (2005) and in the cement industry (2013)
- Drafting of Decisions on alleged abuses of dominance, among others on the importing of motorbikes (1999), debit cards (2006), the distribution of the French press in Belgium (2012), and an alleged margin squeeze case in fixed telephony (2012)
- Drafting of internal reports for working groups of the European Competition Network, including on interchange fees for bank cards (2005), and on the computation of fines (2011)
- Drafting of Decisions alleviating the conditions attached to previous Decisions clearing mergers, including a merger in the Belgian movie sector (2007) and the takeover of Canal+ Flanders by Telenet (2010)
- Drafting of a Decision on dispute settlement between Orange Belgium and Proximus in the Belgian electronic communications sector (2010)
- Drafting of the advisory opinions submitted by the Belgian Competition Council on the market analysis of IBPT, the Belgian electronic communications and postal sector regulator (2004–13)
- Non-academic teaching for a TACIS training programme at the Warsaw International School of Commerce (1993), for a PHARE training programme on state aid for Hungarian civil servants (2001), and for European civil servants at the European Court of Auditors (Luxemburg, 2004–05)
- Expert reports for the European Commission on the chemical fibres industry (1995), industrial policy (1997), on intangible investments (2000), and for the Belgian Central Economic Council on the structural competitiveness of the Belgian economy (2004)
- Drafting of reports of the Federal Planning Bureau on: IT industries in Belgium (2001–02), the bank credit market for SMEs (2003), the pharmaceuticals market in Belgium (2004–05), and the liberalisation of network industries, especially electricity (2003–06)

Selected publications

- Huveneers, C. (2020), 'Territoriale leveringsbeperkingen tussen de Benelux-landen: werkt de interne markt voor iedereen?', *Markt & Mededinging*, 3.
- Huveneers, C. (2017) 'State aid and network industries: what are the key issues from an economics and finance perspective?', *Revue du droit des industries de reseau*, 2017:2-3, pp. 119-28 .
- Huveneers, C. and de Ghellinck, E. (2016), 'Définition des marchés pertinents du secteur des communications électroniques et transactions internes: la recommandation de 2014 de la Commission européenne est-elle en concordance ou en rupture par rapport à la politique belge de régulation et de concurrence?', *Revue du droit des industries de réseau*, 2016:1, pp. 72-85.
- Huveneers, C. and de Ghellinck, E. (2013), 'Who is Right on Margin Squeeze: Competition Law or Sector Specific Regulation?', *Journal of European Competition Law & Practice*, November.
- Huveneers, C. and Naert, F. (2009), 'Concurrentiebeleid en de bestrijding van inflatie', *Tijdschrift voor Belgische Mededinging – Revue de concurrence belge*, 1, pp. 17-31.
- Huveneers, C. and de Ghellinck, E. (1995), 'Community Policies in the Commercial, Industrial and Competition Fields: Complementarity and Conflicts. Application to Chemical Fibers', in P. Buigues, A. Jacquemin and A. Sapir (eds.), 'Consistency between Competition Policy, Industrial Policy and Trade Policy', Edward Elgar.
- Huveneers, C. and Buchet, P. (1995), 'Recyclage de l'épargne, développement industriel et actionnaires de référence', *Revue d'Economie Financière*, 35, Winter.
- Huveneers, C. and Steinherr, A. (1994), 'On the Performance of differently regulated Financial Institutions: some Empirical Evidence', *Journal of Banking and Finance*, 18:2, March, pp. 271-306.
- Huveneers, C. and Steinherr, A. (1993), 'Economie industrielle des institutions bancaires: réglementation, structure, performance', *Revue d'Economie Financière*, 27, Winter, pp. 13-46.
- Huveneers, C. and Steinherr, A. (1990), 'Universal Banking : A View Inspired by German Experience', in A. Porta (ed.), *The Separation of Industry and Finance and the Specialization of Financial Institutions*, E.G.E.A. (Bocconi University), Milan, pp. 37-78.
- Huveneers, C. (1981), 'Price Formation and the Scope for Oligopolistic Conduct in a Small Open Economy', in P. Geroski and A. Jacquemin (eds.), *Symposium on Industrial Organization and International Competition*, *Recherches Economiques de Louvain*, 47:3/4, pp. 209-42.
- Huveneers, C., Jacquemin, A. and de Ghellinck, E. (1980), 'Concentration and Profitability in a Small Open Economy', in R. Caves (ed.), *Symposium on International Trade and Industrial Organization*, *Journal of Industrial Economics*, XXIX:2, December, pp. 131-44.
- Huveneers, C. (1978), 'International Trade Factors and Profitability of Belgian Industrial Sectors', *Tijdschrift voor Economie en Management*, XXIII:3, pp. 279-99.

Qualifications

- Doctor of Law, and Bachelor in Economics, University of Louvain (UCL), Belgium
- MA Economics, University of Leuven (KUL), Belgium